

**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
SITUATION REPORT #02**

Water Supply Contingency Plan Implementation-2000

Wednesday, October 18, 2000 – 1400 Hours

*This report contains the latest information. Revisions are in bold. Please refer to previous situation reports for past information.
Note: Next situation Report – October 31, 2000.*

Situation:

The District has determined that unless levels in the lake increase to near normal level by December there is a high probability that sufficient water supplies from Lake Okeechobee may not be available to meet the needs of the users who depend on the lake as the primary source for water supply.

The Governing Board declared a water shortage warning for the Indian Prairie region at the October 12, 2000 meeting. The warning calls for voluntary restrictions from water users in the affected region which is northwest of Lake Okeechobee.

The District has declared a Water Shortage Warning for users within the South Dade Miami Water Use Basin, The Water Conservation Areas/Everglades National Park Water Use Basin, The Water Conservation Area 1/C-51 Water Use Basin, the Water Conservation Area 2 Water Use Basin, the Water Conservation Area 3 Water Use Basin, the Everglades Agricultural Area Water Use Basin, the Interior Palm Beach County Water use Basin, the M Canal Water Use Basin, The Lakeshore Perimeter Water Use Basin, The St. Lucie River Water Use Basin, and The Caloosahatchee River Water Use Basin.

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

Short Term:

Mostly sunny to partly cloudy with scattered showers northeast of Lake Okeechobee.

Long Term:

Increased chance of below average rainfall during the dry season, especially during the November through March period when 90% of average rainfall is expected based on historical rainfall.

WATER CONDITIONS:

Kissimmee Chain of Lakes:

On average, the lakes in the Kissimmee Chain of lakes and Lake Istokpoga are approximately **1-1.5 feet** below their respective regulation schedules, with Lake Alligator about four feet below schedule and **East Lake Tohopekaliga 2 feet above** schedule. The lakes, on average are approximately one **to two** feet below their average stage for this time of year. **Lake Alligator stage is more than 3 feet lower than average, and East Lake Toho stage is about average.**

Lake Okeechobee Service Area

Lake Okeechobee is at approximately 12.**22** feet NGVD, which is about 3.5 feet below

schedule and approximately 2.9 feet below average for this time of year.

Canals in the Everglades Agriculture Area are at normal wet season stages and are being operated to provide the authorized level of flood protection for the area. No **regulatory** releases are being made from Lake Okeechobee at this time in accordance with the Corps' operational guidelines. Because of the present lake stage, normal operational criteria requires that runoff from the C-44 basin is directed into Lake Okeechobee instead of to the St. Lucie Estuary.

Water Conservation Areas

Stages in Water Conservation Area 1 are approximately slightly above schedule and about one foot above average. Water Conservation Area 2 is about 0.9 feet below the regulation schedule and is about 0.4 feet below average for this time of year. Stages in Water Conservation Area 3 are near regulation and are about 0.3 feet above average stages at this time.

Lower East Coast

Canal water levels along the Lower East Coast are near normal wet season stages and are being operated to provide the authorized level of flood protection for the area.

OPERATIONAL STATUS:

The District's EOC is activated to a level 2, (partial activation) for implementation of the Water Supply Contingency Plan.

TEAM REPORTS:

DISASTER ANALYSIS AND PLANNING SECTION:

Lake Okeechobee Team:

- Completed water supply benefit and ecological impact analysis of water supply backpumping option.
- Presented analysis to Governing Board on 9/26. *(Board directed staff not to move forward with this option at this time.)*
- Conducted water quality monitoring program flood protection backpumping resulting from recent rains.

GIS/Web Page Team:

- Updated Water Supply Contingency web page with link to daily system storage report.
- Posted final Contingency Plan on webpage.

Water Supply Contingency Plan Team:

- Distributed second draft of the Draft Water Supply Contingency Plan on 9/26.
- Conducted Public Workshop to discuss the Plan on 9/28.
- Final Contingency Plan submitted to Governing Board on 10/11.
- Briefed joint meeting of Palm Beach County Commissioners/Governing Board on Contingency Plan.

- Initiated plan review for potential threatened and endangered species implications.

Vegetation Management Team

- Briefed Governing Board on accelerated vegetation management program.

LOGISTICS/FINANCE:

Logistics:

- Executed contract with MWI Corp for the purchase of 14 each, 100cfs electric submersible pumps.
- Completed and Approved Waiver of Competition for the purchase of pumps.
- Completed Governing Board request to provide list of vendors contacted for the purpose of proving quotes for the 14 pumps.
- Processing Waiver of Competition for electrical contracting services for the 14 electrical submersible pumps at S-351, S-352 and S-354.
- Issued Letter of Intent to contract with the lowest responsive vendor submitting quotation to provide electrical control systems for the 14 pumps at S-351, S-352 and S-354.
- Drafting Waiver of Competition for the bioassay lab sample testing.
- Drafting Scope of Work for Pump Installation Services quotation.

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT COORDINATION:

- Ordered electrical submersible pumps.
- Completed preparation of contract along with waiver of competition.
- Developed and disseminated to contractors electrical specifications.
- Conducted on-site pre-solicitation meeting with 8 vendors at S-351, S-352, and S-354.
- Conducted on-site review of electrical service requirements with FPL (awaiting permission from FPL to begin installation).
- Began coordination with Water Resources Operations to formulate strategy for muck fires.

WATER SUPPLY SECTION:

Water Conservation Team:

- EAA water use assessment methodology defined. Will be tracked on a mass balance scale, using District pump data at the same locations and in the same manner as the Works of the District water quality data is collected. Water use from Lake Okeechobee for the month of September was considerably less than the volume released from the EAA south (approximately 70 times). Urban water use was unchanged for September as compared with September 1999 and August 2000.
- Completed first draft of the water conservation newspaper ad campaign and await release pending current flooding.

Lake Istokpoga Team:

- Water shortage warning issued by Governing Board for the Lake Istokpoga Indian Prairie Basin on 10/12.
- Stakeholders meeting set for 10/23 to discuss upcoming water shortage potential and options for cleaning Lake Istokpoga during drought induced drawdown.

Modified Supply Side Management Implementation Team:

- Updated water use GIS maps have been prepared for the Lake Okeechobee service area and revised irrigated acreage calculated.
- Water conditions on Lake Okeechobee improved and will be tracked with rainfall forecast in assessing whether to continue the revised SSM plan or revise the plan.

Lower West Coast Team:

- **USACOE reports work on restoration of the S-79 bubble curtain is on target for completion in November.**
- **Coordination with media regarding District's water conservation campaign is proceeding.**

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Updated and coordinated mailing lists.**
- **Completed draft Service Center Communications Plan.**
- **Completing media strategy.**
- **Completed individual team member meetings.**

OFFICE OF COUNSEL:

- **Drafted letter to Florida Department of Environmental Protection regarding authorization, operation and consistency with existing permitting requirements for pumps.**
- **Provided legal assistance on environmental concerns on water supply contingency actions.**

Signed:

Joe Taylor, Deputy Executive Director
Water Resources Operations

Olivia McLean, Director of
Emergency Management

Distribution:

SFWMD Governing Board members
Executive Group
Governors Office
Department of Environmental Protection
US Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville/Clewiston Offices
State EOC (Operations Officer)